

COMMUNITY COLLEGE COUNCIL (CCC) MEETING NOTES

Wednesday, March 27, 2013

1:00 –2:30 p.m.

Des Moines Area Community College

2006 S. Ankeny Boulevard

Board Room

Ankeny, Iowa

Those in attendance included:

- ☐ Barbara Crittenden, President, Southwestern Community College; and CCC Member
- ☐ MJ Dolan, Executive Director, Iowa Association of Community College Trustees,
- ☐ Rosie Hussey, CCC and State Board of Education Member (via conference call)
- ☐ Mike Knedler, CCC and State Board of Education Member
- ☐ Randy Mead, Executive Director, Program Development, Des Moines Area Community Colleges
- ☐ Moudy Nabulsi, Community College Trustee, Southeastern Community College, and CCC Member (via conference call)
- ☐ Steve Ovel, Executive Director, Governmental Relations, Kirkwood Community College
- ☐ Max Phillips, CCC Chair and State Board of Education Member
- ☐ Jeremy Varner, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges
- ☐ Stephanie Weeks, Assistant to Jeremy Varner, Division of Community Colleges
- ☐ LaMetta Wynn, CCC and State Board of Education Member

I. Welcome and Introductions—Max Phillips, CCC Chair

Prior to the business meeting, the council received a presentation from Stephanie Ferraro, Iowa Advanced Manufacturing Initiative (I-AM) Project Manager, DMACC; and Wendy Mihm-Herold, Vice President of Business and Community Solutions, Northeast Iowa Community College; on the I-AM initiative and toured DMACC's advanced manufacturing center.

Chair Phillips called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Members and presenters introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Meeting Notes—Max Phillips

Chair Phillips asked for approval of the notes of the November 13, 2012, meeting of the CCC.

Motion: Moudy Nabulsi moved and Rosie Hussey seconded to approve the CCC notes as presented.

Action: The notes were passed unanimously by the CCC.

III. Division Updates—Jeremy Varner

Department of Education (DE) Staffing Changes

The DE anticipates filling the position of chief of the Bureau of Adult, Career, and Community College Education within the Division of Community Colleges, within the next few weeks. This position is responsible for providing guidance, leadership, and oversight for community colleges,

career and technical education, adult basic education, and other programming. Until the position is filled, Kent Farver will continue serving as acting bureau chief. The division also anticipates hiring two education program consultants in the near future.

Office of Vocational and Education (OVAE) Monitoring Visits

1. The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE) conducted an on-site monitoring visit for Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) programming on February 11-14, 2013. This monitoring visit included a financial, data, program, and state leadership review of Iowa's adult education and literacy programs. As a part of the review, the monitoring team visited four Iowa community colleges (Iowa Central Community College, Kirkwood Community College, Indian Hills Community College, and Des Moines Area Community College).

Preliminary commendations included Iowa's use of lowagrants.gov and state collaboration with implementing Student Achievement in Reading. The team's final report will likely include one finding related to data quality and its information management system. As a result of this compliance issue, local programs are being asked to enter data into the TOPSpro management information system on a more routine basis rather than at year-end. Additionally, as a result of the review, documentation procedures related to program income and indirect costs utilized for local matches will be updated.

2. The Division of Academic and Technical Education within the United States Department of Education selected Iowa for an on-site monitoring visit on July 8-12, 2013. The purpose of the monitoring visit is to assess Iowa's compliance with the provisions of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins IV). The week-long review will address compliance with respect to the following six topical areas: program administration; fiscal program responsibility; local applications; accountability; programs of study; and special populations.

Community College State Accreditation

Three (3) community colleges are currently undergoing a state accreditation evaluation. Iowa Central Community College (ICCC) and Iowa Western Community College (IWCC) are receiving comprehensive evaluations, and DMACC is receiving an interim evaluation. These institutions are the first to go through the new accreditation process, which has been overhauled following several years of mandated study. The new process is more focused and efficient – removing duplication with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) accreditation process, focusing on state requirements, conducting an electronic desk review, and limiting the intensity and duration of site visits. The process maintains its peer review approach with both state and college reviewers. The DE anticipates moving forward with the next three colleges in fall 2013 and reconvening the state accreditation advisory committee following action by the State Board on the spring evaluations this summer.

High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) Review Committee

The High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) Review Committee met on Thursday, March 7, 2013, at Des Moines Area Community College. The committee is charged with determining the future direction of HSED testing in Iowa. Following is the list of committee members: Juline Albert, Vice President of Instruction, Western Iowa Tech Community College; Darla Helm, Adult Literacy Coordinator, Southwestern Community College; Marcel Kielkucki, Director, High School Completion Programs, Kirkwood Community College; Windy Mihm-Herold, Vice President of Business and Community Services, Northeast Iowa Community College; Andrew Ryder, Research Specialist, Research Institute for Studies in Education, Iowa State University; Sandra Smith, Director of Correctional Education, Department of Corrections; Pam Southworth, Dean of Continuing Education, Iowa Western Community College; and Jennifer Wilson, Director of Adult Literacy Programs, Iowa Valley Continuing Education Center.

Currently, Iowa utilizes the GED® test battery for this purpose; however, several states are exploring alternatives due to significant changes to the assessment and the vendor's shift to a for-profit enterprise. The group's first meeting will be focused on reviewing and approving a Request for Information (RFI). The RFI will be used to solicit information about potential vendors, including a description of their assessments, costs, alignment with high school curricula, delivery options, and technology platform. The steering committee is expected to select a vendor in spring 2014 and then discuss the possibility of additional pathways to a HSED during the summer.

IV. IACCT Update—MJ Dolan

- MJ noted that the community colleges are doing well in the legislature. The Governor's budget proposal included a \$10M increase for Iowa's community colleges.
- MJ distributed the following handouts:
 - 1) A copy of Trustee Quarterly – Winter 2013, where Jean Torgeson of North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC), and Chair of ACCT was featured on the cover of the magazine. Torgeson has served on the ACCT Board since 2007 serving as the Central Region Representative and Member at Large. Torgeson has served on the NIACC Board since 2001, and the IACCT Board since 2002.
 - 2) A two-sided handout entitled "Iowa's Community Colleges Create and Sustain Jobs" and "Business Depends on Community Colleges," which outlines Iowa's 260C.18A Workforce Training and Economic Development Fund (WTED).

V. Rules: Chapter 32—Iowa High School Equivalency Diploma (Adopt)—Jeremy Varner

It was recommended that the CCC move that the State Board of Education adopt amendments to Chapter 32 with a correction. The current rule requires applicants to satisfactorily complete a specific test to qualify for a high school diploma. While the current vendor of what is commonly known as the "GED" will continue to be able to bid on this service, it also opens up the process to other vendors who are now providing such services in other states. In addition, student test scores will now be valid for five years to gain a diploma and age requirements for taking the test are established. Finally, applicant costs have changed from a set dollar figure to an amount designed to cover actual test costs. This prevents multiple changes in the rules to cover cost

changes as they occur from time to time, but are limited to those actual costs. One written comment was received concerning the underlying law, but not the rules being presented here.

Mike Knedler indicated there is an error in the verbiage in 281-32.1 (259A) of the Chapter 32 rules. Listed below is the incorrect section, and directly following, **in red**, is the corrected section.

INCORRECT SECTION:

281—32.1(259A) Test. Applicants for ~~high school equivalency diplomas~~ the Iowa high school equivalency diploma shall ~~satisfactorily complete the General Educational Development Tests published by the General Educational Development Testing Service of the American Council on Education, One Dupont Circle, Washington, D.C. 20036.~~ indicate the holder thereof has achieved the equivalent of a high school education as measured by scores obtained on the test(s) approved by the Iowa department of education to measure high school completion.

CORRECTED SECTION:

281—32.1(259A) Test. The Iowa high school equivalency diploma shall satisfactorily complete the General Educational Development Tests published by the General Educational Development Testing Service of the American Council on Education, One Dupont Circle, Washington, D.C. 20036. indicate the holder thereof has achieved the equivalent of a high school education as measured by scores obtained on the test(s) approved by the Iowa department of education to measure high school completion.

Motion: Mike Knedler moved that the State Board adopt the amendments with the correction and Barb Crittenden seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

VI. Rules: Chapter 21—Community College “Associate of Community College Professional Studies Plot” (Adopt)—Jeremy Varner

It was recommended that the CCC move that the State Board of Education adopt the amendments to Chapter 21. The proposed amendments phase out Associate of Science-Career Option programs over a three year period and implement an Associate of Professional Studies pilot. This pilot will have restrictive parameters and will be effective in the 2013-14 year. This

pilot is required to meet the expectations of statewide articulation agreements, which include 20 credit hours of math and science in the program. It is the hope that this pilot will bring more quality and rigor in their programming than the previous effort that it replaces. There has been planning and outreach with impacted stakeholders, with this final product being the result of this work. No public comments were received; no changes have been made to the rules from the Noticed version.

Motion: Rosie Hussey moved and LaMetta Wynn seconded to move that the State Board adopt the amendments to Chapter 21.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

VII. Presentation on Career Academies

Steve Ovel, Executive Director, Governmental Relations, Kirkwood Community College; and Randy Mead, Executive Dean, Program Development, DMACC; presented on career academies. Career academies are programs of study offered to high school students through an agreement or contract between their high school and a community college. They bridge high school and community college career and technical education programs.

Iowa defines career academies differently than national models which often involve small learning communities. In Iowa, career academies are programs of study that combine a minimum of two years of secondary education with an associate degree in a career preparatory program. The career academy is a program of study that is non-duplicative, sequential, and ensures that the course of study is skill standards-based, integrates academic and technical instruction, utilizes work based and work site learning where appropriate and available, utilizes an individual career planning process with parent involvement, and prepares an individual for entry and advancement in a high-skill and rewarding career field.

VIII. Iowa Community College Joint Enrollment Report 2012—Jeremy Varner

The Iowa Community College Joint Enrollment Report 2012 provides information on joint enrollment (students enrolled in both high school and community college) in courses delivered through Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO), courses delivered through sharing agreements with school districts (including concurrent enrollment), and courses taken independently by tuition-paying students. This report consists of fiscal year and trend data on joint enrollment, including headcount enrollment, credit hours, student demographics, and enrollment by program type and offering arrangement. All data included in this report is taken from the Community College Management Information System (MIS) and is confirmed by each college, unless otherwise noted. Some of the highlights of this report include a 1.7 percent increase in enrollment to 39,570 students in fiscal year 2012. This growth is below the five-year average growth rate of 5.9 percent.

Eleven (11) community colleges experienced enrollment growth while four saw declines. Joint enrollment accounted for more than a quarter of total community college enrollment (headcount) and 13.8 percent of credit hours. A growing share of jointly enrolled students (87.5 percent) enrolled through contractual agreements between colleges and districts. Unlike most

DE reports, this publication provides college-level information in the analysis, including institutional profiles.

IX. Discussion on Topics for Future Council Meetings—Jeremy Varner

Discussion took place with the membership regarding topics for discussion at future CCC meetings. The following list was shared with the CCC:

1. Pathways for Academic and Career Employment (PACE) and GAP Tuition Assistance Program
2. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Hub Activities
3. Iowa Community College Completion Initiative (ICCCI)
4. Workforce Training and Economic Development Fund
5. RN-to-BSN Discussion and Related Issues
6. Skilled Iowa and National Career Readiness Certificates
7. Virtual Reality/Simulation Utilization in Community College Programming
8. Project Degree/Gateway to College (Des Moines Area Community College)
9. Smarter Balance Assessments
10. Connection between Iowa State Board of Education Priorities and Community Colleges
11. Quality Matters – Online (Iowa Valley Community College District)

The CCC discussed the proposed items and added poverty issues as an additional topic. Council members discussed prioritization of the items and noted that the timing of some discussions should be coordinated with the community college presidents' group. The department will work with the presidents to coordinate council focus discussions on the identified topics.